

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Sachio MURAI et al.

Application No.: 10/009,513 ✓

Filed: December 11, 2001 ✓

For: OPTICAL ELEMENT

Attorney Docket No.: IID-0200

Examiner: M. Zimmer ✓

Art Unit: 1712 ✓

Confirmation No. 4813

#6  
4/30/03  
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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 31, 2003, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-4 drawn to a polyester-based thermoplastic elastomer, with traverse.

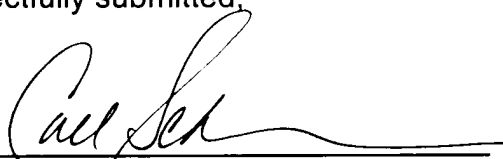
It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search or the subject matter of any one group of claims would necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP 803 which is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims that are distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added).

It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply to the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and the duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 23, 2003

By:



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